

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Madhav Mutalik et al.
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For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MIRRORING AND
RESTORING DATA

Examiner: Jacobs, Lashonda T.
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 4th day of January, 2006.

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

1. (Amended) A method for mirroring data of a first storage area, comprising:
placing a second storage area in a first state, wherein the first state of the second storage area is a state in which updates to the first storage area are made to the second storage area;

mirroring data from the first storage area to the second storage area while the second storage area is in the first state;

changing a state of the second storage area from the first state to a second state in which updates to the first storage area are not made to the second storage area, wherein after the changing act the second storage area contains a snapshot of data of the first storage area at a given time; [and]

restoring data to the first storage area from the second storage area while maintaining the second storage area in the second state;